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Lamar University

Masters in Educational Technology Final

Course Reflection

September 30, 2012

My immediate position goal is to be a more proactive advocate for implementing infrastructure, classroom, pedagogy, and curriculum upgrades to utilize existing and new technology and people resources to their fullest potential in my current position. In order to do that, I will refresh Microsoft OS skills with some network administration courses.

My immediate technology leadership goal is to apply what I have learned to support 1:1 wireless deployments of personal and/or school owned smart devices in support of relevant interactive use of internet and network based multimedia educational resources by every student and teacher. In order to facilitate that process, there are additional courses, perhaps the pursuit of an educational technology oriented doctorate.

As quoted in Startz (2012) “Personal Vision of Leadership (one sentence): My vision of leadership is to lead by example leading others to develop their full potential through establishing a fair, consistent, and purpose driven framework for academic, sports, and personal achievement that will give students the knowledge, decision making, and physical skills they need to succeed in an ever changing technologically advanced global economy that makes the love of lifelong learning essential” (p. 10). Making this vision into a reality will require ongoing research utilizing such educational resources as *The Journal, Texas Computer Educator Association* (TCEA) resources, the annual *Horizon K-12 report*, and the *Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development* (ASCD). Of course there will be countless other, like Miguel Guhlin’s technology blog, *Around the Corner*.

The process of turning the vision into reality will be ongoing and is beginning with the fine tuning of our recently upgraded wired network to utilize VPN’s to route traffic more efficiently by creating controllable pathways for each of the various types of local and mobile

users. While supplying a computing device for each student has been a stumbling block, the authors of the Horizon K-12 Report (2012) point out that “61% of Americans age 12 and up own a mobile device, and 44% specifically own a smartphone.” (p. 11). Their availability coupled with their versatility has caused Horizon authors to label them the number one technology to watch. They are betting over 20% of U.S. schools will adopt some sort of BYOD. The idea is certainly one our district administrators are excited to try and willing to immediately invest in the wireless infrastructure needed to support all sorts of wireless devices. As highlighted in the Horizon K-12 Report (2012), “As the potential of mobile computing is being demonstrated across an ever-growing list of K-12 institutions, a successful shift from a traditional to a mobile environment still requires planning and research” (p.12). In order to support the process better, my vision will require more education, on the networking side of the process either for myself or for the newly hired technology assistant. ...that, by the way is the one constant with technology, I am always studying to learn about the latest and greatest equipment, software, and resources and how to best implement them locally. Self-education, in any technology field must be as constant as the constantly changing technology we are attempting to master and utilize for the best learning outcomes for our students. In thinking about my vision, I knew I needed more formal education which is why I decided to earn my Master’s Degree in Educational Technology Leadership.

The six courses that helped me the most would have to be these: 5345-Human Resources, 5326 –School-Community Relations, 5344 -School Law, 5364-Teaching with Technology, 5366- Digital Graphic Desktop Publishing, 5301- Research tied with 5306- Concepts of Educational Technology.

**5345- Human Resources** because it introduced me to administrative side of dealing with employees and the differences in their contracts.

**5326 – School-Community Relations**, because it explained how important the development and maintenance of community vision (through active participation in school organizations and site based by the community) are to the success of the school.

**5344 – School Law**, because it introduced me to the process of applying case law to the everyday decision processes that arise at every school in order to prevent and/or minimize legal problems for the district and staff. Also because Dr. Creel explained the McKinney Vento Act which had personal relevance to my niece.

**5364 & 5366–Teaching with Technology and Digital Graphic Desktop Publishing**, because I was able to experiment with many multimedia software tools, most of them freely available on the internet. Among these were game writing programs, Google Apps (including website,wiki, and blog tools), as well as video and audio capture and editing programs. It was fun/hard work that the tools were those that I wanted exposure to the most. The missing piece...have students take the Google Apps certification test at the end so that too becomes part of their resume.

**5301 - Action Research**– because I learned what Action Research is and how we, as instructional technology leaders and possibly as Principals, can best improve our schools through utilizing organized continuous research followed with the implementation of what we learn within our own learning communities. The exposure to current, research enables teachers to gain fresh perspectives and learn to supplement their existing practices and curriculums with newer tools that engage today's students.

**5306 - Concepts of Educational Technology** – This course was important because it reminded me why it is important to continue the struggle to bring the most innovative technology to every classroom in our school. Our students are our future; the leaders of tomorrow and the world they will function in as adults is changing rapidly. There is no way to know what technology tools will exist in their future, but we can provide them with experiences that enable them to adapt and learn as they go to continue to be successful in that future.

In the process of completing the courses required for this degree, I have learned that I still love to learn. Mostly, I love to learn about new ways to use technology and to share that knowledge with others. Google Apps provide an awesome resource for just about anyone with sufficient and reliable bandwidth to create simple to complex documents complete with tables, spreadsheets, artwork, and presentations. While the features may not have all the bells and whistles of a full Office package, or a fee based web site, what the Google tools can do is usually enough for most classroom assignments.

I strive hard to make collaborative projects work, and to pull my own weight, but I get very frustrated when others do not devote the same time, dedication, and energy to a project. Although the frustration is strong, I still make sure the project is as complete as possible so that the group as a whole does not suffer.

The courses included in the Masters of Educational Technology program gave me the experience needed to change my attitude towards allowing the use of cloud based resources locally. I see the potential of these resources to revolutionize public education because they are available 24/7 (when bandwidth and/or broadband access) are not issues, but I still think caution is warranted due to security of private information in the cloud. I was able to earn my Master's

Degree because, and only because I could do the work from the comfort of my own little office at home after my regular job. If I had needed to travel to San Antonio, Beaumont, Victoria, or Houston multiple times weekly, this degree would have been an impossible feat. By the same token, in our small corner of the world, we need to utilize broadband and wireless devices to broaden the horizons of our students so they will be competitive in the working world they will inherit.

In order to realize my vision, as mentioned above, my self-education will continue the table below is my professional development plan for achieving my vision.

Patricia Startz Professional Development Plan		
<b>Goal I: Update network management and teacher support (communication) skills to include CSCOPE, latest windows, Accelerated Reader, and Library database administration skills to continue to maintain the district network.</b>		
<b>Mentor: Region3 Gayle Parenica</b>		
CSCOPE administration training and mastery.  <b>Mentor: Region3 Gayle Parenica</b>  <b>Reading: Training, support, and curriculum instructional documents</b>	July 2012 – July 2015	Successful management and support of CSCOPE and its continued use within the district for all teachers.
Windows server 2012 and Windows desktop 2008 training  Online Course Resources: Dependent on budget and whether I or the school pays for the classes.  <b>Introducing Windows Server 2012-</b> ISBN-10: 0735666792   ISBN-13: 978-0735666795  <b>Windows Server 2012 Unleashed</b> <b>ISBN-10: 0672336227</b>	Dec. 2012 – August 2015	Windows server 2012 successfully deployed throughout server environment; teachers using and successfully support Windows 2008 network client desktop.

<b>ISBN-13:</b> 978-0672336225  <b>Microsoft System Center 2012 Unleashed</b>  <b>ISBN-10:</b> 067233612X  <b>ISBN-13:</b> 978-0672336126  <b>Windows 8 Inside Out</b>  <b>ISBN-10:</b> 0735663815  <b>ISBN-13:</b> 978-0735663817  <b>Windows 8 Secrets</b>  <b>ISBN-10:</b> 1118204131  <b>ISBN-13:</b> 978-1118204139   <b>Windows 8 Bible</b>  <b>ISBN-10:</b> 1118203887  <b>ISBN-13:</b> 978-1118203880		
Accelerated Reader latest version update training  Instructional Materials will come from Renaissance Learning.	September 2012 – August 2015	Latest version of Accelerated successfully deployed and supported for elementary use.
TxEIS support training as needed.  Region 20 Staff: Ed Smith  Reading materials as required for mastering support of TxEIS	September 2012 – August 2015	Maintain training for successful support of TxEIS student information database software.
<b>Goal II: Become more familiar with School Law and Finance from an administrator's perspective by continuing higher education pursuits.</b>  <b>Mentor:</b> I am not sure. The only ED.MD's I know are faculty at Lamar..  Investigating what doctorate programs for which I am qualified and determining if there is an EdTech Doctorate level degree or if it will be curriculum, administration, or teacher leadership??		
Pursuit of additional administration training and possible pursuit of Superintendent certification and/or doctorate.	August 2014 – December 2015	Certificate of Achievement  Doctorate Degree

<b>Goal III: Implementing ongoing teacher action research groups to improve curriculum development, curriculum presentation, technology integration among K-12 teachers.</b>  <b>Mentor: Garyle Parenica</b>  <b>I am waiting on the title of at least one article she has recommended relating to curriculum alignment.</b>		
Seek administrative permission for this initiative	September 2012	Email, meeting notes
Solicit Volunteers	September 2012	Email, meeting notes
Determine groupings and tentative meeting dates	September 2012/ February 2013 September 2013/ February 2014 September 2014/ February 2015	Email, meeting notes
Establish topic lists for research and discussion first half of the year.	September 2012/ February 2013 September 2013/ February 2014 September 2014/ February 2015	Email, meeting notes
Research finding reports	December 2012 / May 2013 December 2013 / May 2014 December 2014 / May 2015	Meeting notes and sample group presentations.
Action as a result of research	December 2012 / May 2013 December 2013 / May 2014 December 2014 / May 2015	

My Professional Vita, summarizes my educational and work journey through today, see the next page. As I fixed formatting of the document for this report, I fixed a few things. It should be the best version to date.



# Patricia Startz Professional Vita

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## Academic Background:

- Master's in Educational Technology Leadership, Lamar University, expected completion, September 2012 with graduation in December 2012.
- August 1992 - Graduate South Texas University (at the time SWTSU) – B.S. Mathematics/Computer Science with Secondary Education Specialization
- May 1988 - Associate of Science Coastal Bend Community College
- May 1977- Salutatorian Three Rivers High School
- K-12 education in Three Rivers ISD

## Professional Certifications/Licenses:

- Masters in Educational Technology Leadership, Lamar University, expected completion, September 2012 with graduation in December 2012.
- Texas - Secondary Education, specialization Mathematics and Computer Science - grades 6-12- Lifetime Certificate
- Associate of Science, Coastal Bend Community College, May 1988.
- TEA Technology Plan Reviewer (2004-present)
- Emergency Operations Certified/Texas Engineering Extension Service, TAMU, Vulnerability Assessment: Strategy, Design, Mitigation: Train - the -Trainer Certified.

- Office 2003 Certified User, Microsoft Word, Powerpoint, and Excel.
- Intel Certified Trainer of Trainers
- Cat 45E Certification and Fiber Optic Certification
- H&R Block Certified Income Tax Preparation Specialist (1986 -lapsed)
- Licensed Term Life Insurance Agent (1984-lapsed)

## **Employment History**

- Falls City ISD (August 1992-Present)  
Mathematics, Computer Literacy Teacher (8-12), Technology and Network Director, etc.  
It's a small school; we wear lots of hats and do what is needed.
- A-1 Auto Service (August 1994 - Present)  
Quickbooks Administrator/Bookkeeper, Computer Maintenance
- Karnes County Farm Bureau (1980 – 1981)

## **Administrative/Supervisory/Leadership Experience**

- Masters in Educational Technology Leadership / Principal Internship (April 2011 – Sept. 2012) In excess of required 300 hours.

## **Administrative Experience**

- Administered every phase of the grant process, from visioning to filing the final report documents for each of the TIF grants mentioned in the Grants section.

## **Leadership Experience**

- Led/leading Falls City ISD Teachers and Administrators to continually improve technology integration in classroom instruction (1992 – Present).
- Leading the planning and implementation of the annual E-RATE process.
- Led the Countywide Telecommunications Committee while on the Economic Development Board which lead to countywide leadership role to organize, establish and manage a countywide operating board for the vision of a countywide wireless network to bring wireless broadband to our rural community. I worked closely with county leaders, businessmen, etc. to design, budget, apply for the grant, deploy, and operate the network. This grant provided and currently provides Wireless internet connectivity throughout the county with major hops in each town, 1 computer and free wireless internet access for each partner, including the libraries, the courthouse, each of the schools, and the

economic development board in addition to a free countywide website for each participant, free website maintenance training, and free Microsoft Office Suite training hosted in each school district.

- Chief instigator and Pilot School of Palo Alto College's Video Conference based Dual Credit Program (1999-2010).
- Led FCISD Administrators, Teachers and Community Members through 4 major TIF grants from inception to complete implementation.
- Re-established NHS & established Junior NHS for Falls City Students.

## **Professional Development**

### **Region Center Training 2004 - 2012**

- Network Oriented Training
- RSCCC / TXEIS Training
- TEKS Training
- CTE Training
- Curriculum Advisory Committee
- CTE Advisory Committee

### **Region 3 Training Register -**

[https://pastartz.wikispaces.com/file/view/2004\\_2011R3WorkshopRecors.pdf](https://pastartz.wikispaces.com/file/view/2004_2011R3WorkshopRecors.pdf)

## **Additional Training**

- CSCOPE, Project Share, NovaNet, and Pearson Online Assessment administration and management training.
- Annual online training for Technology Plan Reviewers.
- Goliad Moodle Moot, June 2010
- SHARS system training
- Civil Rights Data Collection System Training
- Moodle Admin and Teacher Training June 18 & 19, 2008
- Texas Engineering Extension Service, TAMU, Vulnerability Assessment: Strategy, Design, Mitigation:  
Train - the -Trainer - July 2007
- July 25- 27, 2006 - TEA Div. CTE Business & Marketing 20+ hours CEU
- New CTE Teacher Orientation Training
- Microsoft Office Specialist 2003 Training, Word, Excel, & Power Point 7/25-7/26, 2006

- Texas A&M PEER-Project based Learning Workshop Middle School Social Studies, Reading, Writing, Science, and Mathematics. June 2006 & June 2008
- Texas A&M Virtual Instructor Training
- Intel Trainer of Trainers
- TIFTech Trainer of Trainers
- Completed A+Certification Training and MCSE Training – did not take the tests 2000 just debuting
- NACC Category V Certification Training June 30, 1998
- NACC Fiber Optice Certification training June 29, 1998
- Cord Applied Mathematics – Golden Crescent Tech Prep

### **Training Certificate Portfolio -**

<https://pastartz.wikispaces.com/file/view/CertWkshop19922012P1.pdf>

- Technology Plan Reviewer Certificate \* need to add to certificate portfolio
- Moodle Admin and Teacher Training June 18 & 19, 2008
- Texas Engineering Extension Service, TAMU, Vulnerability Assessment: Strategy, Design, Mitigation:  
Train - the -Trainer 40 hours, June 25-29, 2007
- July 25- 27, 2006 - TEA Div. CTE Business & Marketing 20+ hours CEU
- New CTE Teacher Orientation Training
- Microsoft Office Specialist 2003 Word
- Microsoft Office Specialist 2003 Excel
- Microsoft Office Specialist 2003 Power Point
- Coastal Bend Community College Grant Writing Workshop
- Teletechniques I - customized for Regional Service Centers
- Completed A+Certification Training and MCSE Training Windows NT– did not take the tests June 2000 \*not in port.
- NACC Category V Certification - June 30, 1998 \* cert. not in portfolio
- NACC Fiber Optice Certification - June 29, 1998 \* cert. not in portfolio
- Tandy Technology Scholars
- Cord Applied Mathematics
- EduQuest District Technology Director

### **Presentations and/or Publications**

- Mini “How-To” create docs, videos, etc. for Google Tools
- Annual E-RATE/ Budget Presentations
- In-Service Presentations
- RUS Grant Presentation resulted in Palo Alto RUS grant funding of \$500,000.
- Community Grant Organization/Implementation/Management Presentations

## **Grants**

- Additional college funding for my niece based on McKinney-Vento Act financial aid for unaccompanied minors. This was made possible by information learned in my courses. (Thank you Dr. Creel).
- Collaborated with Palo Alto Community College RUS Grant to update Video Conference network and provide 4 workstations for video conference classroom, approx \$25,000. local equipment, \$500,000 to Palo Alto for the Project.
- TIF Community Network Grant - \$250,000.
- TIF PS10 – High School Computers and Professional Development- \$50,000
- TIF PS9-Elementary Computers and Professional Development - \$50,000
- TIF PS6 – Video Conferencing Equipment, Est. Video Conference Dual Credit Program with Palo Alto College- \$50,000
- TechPrep Grant – Provided Microsoft Office Site License, Ink, & Paper - \$10,000
- TIF PS2 – Established District Wide Wired Network- \$100,000
- Annual ERATE Grant - approximately \$8000/year.

## **Civic/Community Service**

- Non-voting member School District Representative Karnes County Economic Development Corporation Board 2000 – 2008.
- Time for preparation and conducting numerous student and adult computer camps was donated.
- I have donated many computers, monitors, printers, and time to the school district over the years.

## **Professional/Academic Honors and Awards**

- Chosen to represent Karnes County Leaders in Washington, D.C. in 2000
- Salutatorian of Department, Southwest Texas State University and Cum Laude, GPA 3.45
- Salutatorian Three Rivers High School, Class of 1977.

## **Professional Organizations**

- Texas Computer Educators Association
- Association of Texas Professional Educators
- Texas and Regional Association and Curriculum Development

## **Current Research Project**

- Curriculum Alignment for Student Success: Is CSCAPE a viable technology and research based curriculum alignment tool?
- <https://pastartz.wikispaces.com/file/view/Patricia+Startz+SIDL20052259EDLD5398Action+Research+ReportDraftv3wc.pdf>

## **References**

- Available upon request, I must contact before listing here.

**Resources:**

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